

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-18 and 20-26 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-5, 7-18 and 20-26 have been rejected.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1-5, 7-18 and 20-26 are canceled herein without prejudice.

New claims 27-50 have been added.

Claims 27-50 remain in the present application.

Consideration of Claims 27-50 is respectfully requested.

In Sections 1 and 2 of the final Office Action, mailed June 6, 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,671,259 to *He et al.* (hereafter, simply "*He*"). In Sections 3 and 4 of the August 25, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 7-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the *He* reference in view of United States Patent Publication No. 20040039820 to *Colby et al.* (hereafter, simply "*Colby*"). In Section 5 of the August 25, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the *He* reference in view of United States Patent No. 5,754,959 to *Ueno al.* (hereafter, simply "*Ueno*"). In Section 6 of the August 25, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the *He* reference in view of the *Ueno* reference and further in view of the *Colby* reference. The rejections of Claims 1-5, 7-18 and 20-26 are moot in view of the cancellation of the claims.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited prior art does not teach a load sharing group including first and second identity server processes, wherein the first identity server process comprises a primary-backup identity server, which includes primary and backup identity server applications. The *He* reference describes a system for load balancing a network, wherein requests from clients to servers are distributed by a load balancing server selector to load balancing servers, which in turn select a server to fulfill the request. *See Abstract*. However, the *He* reference does not teach that its servers provide primary-backup groups comprising primary applications and associated backup applications, as recited in independent Claim 27.

Thus, Claim 27 recites unique and non-obvious limitations that are not disclosed, suggested or even hinted at in the *He* reference. Furthermore, the *Colby* and *Ueno* references, alone or in combination, do nothing to overcome the shortcomings of the *He* reference. This being the case, Claim 27 contains subject matter that is patentable over the *He* reference, the *Colby* reference, the *Ueno* reference, or any combination of the *He*, *Colby* and *Ueno* references.

Dependent Claims 28-38 depend from Claim 27 and recite all of the unique and non-obvious limitations recited in Claim 27. Thus, Claims 28-38 are also patentable over the cited prior art references. Also, independent Claim 39 recites limitations that are analogous to the unique and non-obvious limitations recited in Claim 27. This being the case, Claim 39 is patentable over the cited prior art references. Finally, dependent Claims 40-50, which depend from Claim 39, recite all of its unique and non-obvious limitations. Thus, Claims 40-50 are also patentable over the cited prior art references.

SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of pending claims and that this Application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *jmockler@davismunck.com*.


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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